

# Summary of Linkage International Social Sciences Collaboration Proposals

## New South Wales

### The University of New South Wales

**LX0883033** Prof RA Bryant; Dr B Kleim

**Approved Project Title** Trauma and Unwanted Memories

**2008 :** \$ 42,000

**2009 :** \$ 42,000

**Primary RFCD** 3801 PSYCHOLOGY

#### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** The University of New South Wales

#### Project Summary

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a potentially debilitating condition that affects survivors of trauma. Intrusive memories of the trauma is the key problem in people with PTSD. This project will attempt to understand intrusive memories and will clarify why these memories persist. Outcomes from this project will directly assist people with PTSD because it will enhance understanding of a key symptom that maintains the disorder.

**LX0883067** Dr RI Kemp; Prof M Burton; Dr R Jenkins

**Approved Project Title** Solving the passport problem: re-designing photo-ID to improve recognition

**2008 :** \$ 43,000

**2009 :** \$ 48,000

**Primary RFCD** 3801 PSYCHOLOGY

#### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** The University of New South Wales

#### Project Summary

We aim to contribute to national security and crime prevention by increasing the accuracy with which security staff can check the validity of photo-ID documents such as passports. Research shows that it is surprisingly difficult to determine if the image on a photo-ID document is of the bearer, and as a result it is likely that fraudulent use of photo-ID documents sometimes goes undetected. Our novel approach is to use our knowledge of unfamiliar face perception to develop new image formats for photo-ID documents which increase the accuracy with which security staff can detect identity fraud.

# Summary of Linkage International Social Sciences Collaboration Proposals

## University of Wollongong

**LX0883143** Prof DG Steel; Prof RL Chambers; Dr RG Clark; Dr MD Tranmer; Dr MJ Elliot

**Approved Project Title** **The role of households, neighbourhoods and networks in social statistics**

**2008 :** \$ 40,718

**2009 :** \$ 36,493

**2010 :** \$ 64,000

**Primary RFCD** 3701 SOCIOLOGY

### **Collaborating Countries**

UK

**Administering Organisation** University of Wollongong

### **Project Summary**

Many issues affect the social progress of the country. Social research can determine the factors affecting issues such as unemployment, poverty, educational attainment, crime victimization and poor health. Survey and other data are used extensively to examine these conditions and their association with attributes of people. This project will provide methods to better determine the impact of effects associated with the household structure and other groups and social networks. The improved ability to assess the impact of these factors will have economic and social benefits. These benefits will arise from improved analysis leading to better decisions and improvements in the design of research studies improving their cost efficiency.

# Summary of Linkage International Social Sciences Collaboration Proposals

## Queensland

### Griffith University

**LX0883016** A/Prof SR Billett; A/Prof GC Johnson; Dr GM Martin; Prof NC Boreham

**Approved Project Title** **Sustaining older workers' competence: Informing policy and practice**

**2008 :** \$ 36,013

**2009 :** \$ 36,528

**Primary RFCD** 3399 OTHER EDUCATION

### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** Griffith University

### Project Summary

Maintaining the effective working life of older Australian workers is central for sustaining the economic and social health of the nation and for their workplace efficacy and sense of self as productive members of the community. This project will identify and recommend practices and policies for both Australian workplaces and educational institutions to sustain and develop further the skills of Australia's growing number of older workers and effectively manage their work transitions. These outcomes will also be used to inform processes and practices to develop the capacities of older Australians in maintaining personally and economically productive working lives.

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## The University of Queensland

LX0883125 Dr MJ Hornsey; Dr RM Sutton; Dr KM Douglas

**Approved Project Title** **Negotiating the minefield: Social conventions surrounding group criticism and their role in explaining defensiveness**

**2008 :** \$ 36,112

**2009 :** \$ 36,017

**Primary RFCD** 3801 PSYCHOLOGY

### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** The University of Queensland

### Project Summary

People often describe the delivery of group criticism as a 'minefield', because of the potential for mistrust, hostility and defensiveness. When it comes to group criticism, being right is not enough; one must also obey certain conventions that are designed to minimize hurt and denial. In this project we explore for the first time what these 'rules of engagement' are, and what this means for those who wish to promote positive change in groups. This will have applied implications in that it will help provide specific recommendations regarding how to negotiate sensitive issues within a range of cultural, national, and corporate groups.

## Australian Capital Territory

### The Australian National University

**LX0883152** Prof D Cobb-Clark; Dr CA Ryan; Dr JT Gorgens; Prof SJ Machin; Prof LM Dearden; Prof RW Blundell

**Approved Project Title** **What are the determinants and effects of school choice? An international comparison between Australia and the UK**

**2008 :** \$ 53,112

**2009 :** \$ 43,793

**Primary RFCD** 3402 APPLIED ECONOMICS

#### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** The Australian National University

#### Project Summary

The project will provide a clearer picture of the determinants of school choice, most notably the impact of economic phenomena on that choice. For Australia, this will mean we have a better understanding of the competing explanations of the growth of students at private schools over the past three decades: the role of government subsidies; the role of demographic changes; the effects of increased income inequality; and the role of changes in preferences towards private schools. This information will provide a better evidence base for future policy development in this area.

**LX0883137** Prof I McAllister; Prof S White

**Approved Project Title** **Crafting Authoritarian Politics**

**2008 :** \$ 23,992

**2009 :** \$ 31,180

**2010 :** \$ 56,000

**Primary RFCD** 3601 POLITICAL SCIENCE

#### Collaborating Countries

UK

**Administering Organisation** The Australian National University

#### Project Summary

Although Russia is nominally a democracy, strong elements of authoritarianism remain dominant. This project examines how Russia has accommodated these authoritarian themes within a representative democracy and, more generally, seeks to shed new light on the process of democratization in postcommunist societies. Russia is the 8th largest country in the world by population and the 11th largest economy based on GDP; it also remains nuclear-armed. Understanding the dynamics of democratization in Russia has implications for political stability across a large section of the world which is currently in transition from authoritarianism to democracy.